

the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 771.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY OF GRAVETTE, ARKANSAS

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to congratulate the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) on their work on that resolution, which is so important.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the community of Gravette, Arkansas, for winning an Arkansas Community of Excellence Award.

The ACE awards, administered by the Arkansas Department of Economic Development, go to communities that do not wait for ideal circumstances to attract development but actively work to create an environment that welcomes growth.

To that end, the community of Gravette embarked on a plan for change that highlighted their town as the heart of hometown America. Their plan, which included everything from minor beautification projects to a \$5 million rural water project, put them in a position to attract more jobs to Gravette. As the town continues to grow, important infrastructure upgrades, like the completion of the railroad overpass, will be crucial to dealing with the changes this growth brings.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Gravette, under the leadership of Mayor Dean Fladager, deserves this award. They put a lot of work into this plan, and it is sure to pay off as this community continues to grow.

FEDERAL DISASTER HELP FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS

(Ms. HARRIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, as we meet this afternoon, our friends and neighbors on the Gulf Coast face yet another threat of a devastating hurricane. As we keep them in our thoughts and prayers, let us reassure them that this body will do everything possible to help recover and rebuild.

Let us also remind the victims of Hurricane Charley and Hurricane Frances that we will not forget their continued suffering. Thanks to the leadership of the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG), we acted swiftly and decisively in appropriating an initial \$2 billion for hurricane relief last week; a good start, but a small fraction

of the assistance that the victims so desperately need right now.

The President has submitted a request for an additional \$3.1 billion which the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) introduced in the form of H.R. 5072. Predictably, the temptation exists to address the other disasters that have recently occurred across our Nation as part of this bill.

I believe we should consider amendments that add relief for hurricanes Charley and Frances caused outside of Florida and also provide assistance for all of Ivan's victims, whether they reside at the point of landfall or far inland.

We cannot, however, afford to get bogged down in considering measures that do not specifically relate to hurricane relief. Hurricane victims facing an emergency cannot afford to wait while we evaluate unrelated disaster assistance proposals, as worthy as they might be.

RIO GRAND FOREST PRODUCTS IN ESPANOLA, NEW MEXICO

(Mr. PEARCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I addressed this House last evening about the policies in our Forest Service which are causing jobs to go overseas, which are killing industries, which are causing infrastructure to be abandoned. After I made that presentation, we received a call today.

Rio Grande Forest Products, operating in New Mexico and the northern district of New Mexico from a town called Espanola in New Mexico, had 100 employees. Rio Grande Forest Products shut down last year due to the Forest Service restricting the harvesting of large-diameter trees. Basically, the Forest Service is blocking them from pursuing harvest. The Forest Service would not facilitate the harvesting despite numerous submittals and requests for assistance.

The employees who lost their jobs have been unemployed, and it is because of restrictive policies that are pushed by extremists in our country who would block any effort to harvest the resources from this country. The sawmill was located on 60 acres, 180,000 feet of idle space.

Mr. Speaker, it is ourselves who are causing the loss of American jobs in this country, not the President.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE GREATEST DANGER: IRAN'S PURSUIT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, last month, Iran successfully tested the latest version of its Shahab-3 intermediate-range ballistic missile. According to Iran's Defense Ministry, the flight was the culmination of Tehran's efforts to improve the range and accuracy of the Shahab-3, which Western experts believe can strike targets anywhere within Israel and also threatens U.S. forces arrayed in neighboring Iraq and around the Persian Gulf.

Tehran's ballistic missile program is worrisome in its own right, but coupled with the increasingly alarming details of Iran's nuclear program, the danger is magnified.

For the past year, the United States and our European allies have been working through the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, to prevent Iran from continuing its pursuit of nuclear weapons. The IAEA is considering a draft resolution authored by Britain, France, and Germany that will give Tehran until November to reveal in detail its nuclear program.

Our Government has advocated a tougher approach by pressing the IAEA to set specific benchmarks for Iran and by asking the agency to refer the matter to the U.N. Security Council which has the power to take punitive action, including the imposition of sanctions.

Until Tehran sees that its continued nuclear activities have economic and diplomatic costs, they are unlikely to begin serious negotiations that might lead to the shutdown of their nuclear program. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be sufficient support in the IAEA for a tougher line with Iran.

Over the past 2 years, IAEA inspectors have discovered a number of undeclared nuclear activities in Iran that clearly point to a nuclear weapons development program, despite assertions by Iranian officials that one of the world's leading oil exporters was building nuclear reactors to produce energy.

Inspectors have found evidence of unreported uranium imports from China, in 1991, as well as uranium enrichment programs using both centrifuges and lasers. The IAEA also uncovered Iranian efforts to reprocess plutonium and evidence of efforts to produce polonium 210, an isotope that can trigger a nuclear explosion.

In November of last year, the European Union secured an Iranian declaration that it would suspend all enrichment and reprocessing activities. Tehran also agreed to sign an additional protocol that would allow inspectors to provide more tough and unannounced inspections. But Iran reneged, and when challenged for its failures, it bridled, warning that it was likely to resume enrichment in the future.

In addition, there is evidence of continued centrifuge-related activities by private workshops, calling further into question its pledges to the EU.

Finally, Iran recently announced that it was prepared to convert approximately 40 tons of yellowcake into uranium hexafluoride gas, which is the raw material for centrifuge equipment. This is a sufficient quantity to produce nuclear weapons.

There is no doubt that Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons, along with the ongoing standoff with North Korea over its nuclear weapons program, constitute the gravest threat to American national security today. How we deal with this threat will shape our global security environment for decades. When coupled with the desire by terrorists to acquire and use these weapons against the U.S., the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran and North Korea is petrifying.

In his new book, *Nuclear Terrorism: The Ultimate Preventable Catastrophe*, Graham Allison, founding dean of Harvard's JFK School of Government, states that if a terrorist were to acquire a nuclear weapon, its delivery to an American target may be almost impossible to stop.

Since coming to the Congress, I have advocated strengthening the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program that seems to secure enormous amounts of fissile material in the former Soviet Union and to expand that effort worldwide.

While securing this material is one element of preventing the production of nuclear weapons, we also have to make structural changes in the global regime that controls the manufacture, transfer and use of fissile material for peaceful use by governments. Chief among these structures is the "grand bargain" of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the NPT, first articulated by President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" proposal.

In exchange for the commitment to forgo the acquisition of nuclear weapons and to agree to IAEA safeguards and inspections, the NPT guarantees non-nuclear weapons states who are parties to the Treaty assistance in developing nuclear energy. The problem with this bargain is that it allows nations like Iran and North Korea to access fissile material and technological know-how that are necessary precursors to a nuclear program. When the state feels confident it is ready to proceed with a weapons program, it simply opts out of the NPT. Unfortunately, the path of least resistance, the acquisition of a nuclear bomb, may run right through the NPT, not around it.

In February, the President gave a speech in which he proposed a series of tough steps. He asked, among other things, for the 40-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group not to sell uranium enrichment equipment and reprocessing equipment to countries that are not already in possession of those technologies. Months have passed. We have done little as a Nation in this area, and time, Mr. Speaker, is running out.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. WELDON of Florida addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

SHOCKING EVIDENCE REGARDING FORMER U.S. PRESIDENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, it is very rare that I come to the well to encourage my colleagues to pay attention to television in general or the news in specific, but I do that here today because there are unconfirmed reports that there are some shocking documents that may be produced tonight by 60 Minutes and CBS News concerning some American presidents.

It turns out that, reportedly, CBS News has documentary evidence that Washington did not cross the Delaware to surprise the British but, rather, in an attempt to surrender in the American Revolutionary War. We are waiting to see the specifics of these documents.

Apparently, President Eisenhower, on the day of D-Day, was not commanding the American and allied troops but, rather, was golfing somewhere in the British Isles, and the allegations are that there may be a golf scorecard produced tonight on CBS and 60 Minutes news.

It turns out that President Richard Nixon, apparently, we again have not seen the evidence yet, never did have a dog named Checkers. Actually, the Nixon dog was named Alger Hiss, for whom the Nixons were secret admirers.

And finally, apparently, there is evidence that we may see tonight that President Reagan was all along a closet socialist and urged Mr. Gorbachev to tear down that wall to provide an opportunity to roll through and conquer Western Europe.

Mr. Speaker, 60 Minutes allegedly is not going to renounce any of these allegations until they have definitive proof to the contrary, and I would urge my colleagues not to always believe what you hear. And sometimes, do not even believe what you see.

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SMART SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). Under a previous order of the

House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year people from around the world saw photographs of the mistreatment, the torture, the sexual abuse of Iraqi prisoners that took place at Abu Ghraib. If anti-American sentiment was not strong enough after the United States invaded a country that never had weapons of mass destruction and never once threatened us, these callous images of American soldiers torturing prisoners sealed the deal. Still, Bush administration officials deny any responsibility for the actions of these soldiers.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld shamefully called it the action of "a few bad apples." This scandal continues to get worse. It has come to light in recent months that prisoners also have been abused in Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay and, moreover, evidence was uncovered earlier this week indicating American abuse of Iraqi prisoners in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

An American inquiry into the prisoner abuse uncovered the existence of ghost detainees, prisoners hidden from International Red Cross inspectors and kept off the inmate list of each prison, and military personnel have indicated that the number of ghost detainees may total in the hundreds. Even someone who does not closely follow the quagmire in Iraq would readily acknowledge the real possibility that the widespread prisoner abuse may not be the unfortunate actions of just a few bad apples.

In fact, the evidence overwhelmingly suggest that prison bias by U.S. forces has been coordinated by the Bush administration. The New Yorker Magazine recently detailed a high level Pentagon plan to encourage physical coercion, otherwise known as torture, of Iraqi prisoners in an attempt to produce intelligence about the post-war insurgency in Iraq. If abusing prisoners is not quite official U.S. policy, the widespread nature of these crimes indicate that they were at least deemed acceptable at the highest levels of command. Perhaps the few bad apples are located at the Pentagon and in the White House, not serving in Iraq.

Sadly, it has become obvious that while a few soldiers are standing trial for the prison abuse, the Bush administration and the Republicans in this House have no plans whatsoever to hold any high ranking officials accountable for these terrible misdeeds. In fact, the House Republican leadership refuses to hold hearings on this subject. The House GOP leaders could learn something from the Senate, which has readily investigated this widespread scandal, and it does appear from their hearings to extend to the highest levels of our government.

What has President Bush done about this situation? Absolutely nothing. The White House continues to deny, dodge